Introduction to Dissections

**Purpose:**

Research and discuss the purpose behind the dissection of classroom specimens.

**Goal:**

Our approach this year is going to be to take different specimens and dissect them simultaneously. This approach is called comparative anatomy.

Research and discuss comparative anatomy.

**What Specimens?**

We have chosen to dissect a grasshopper, starfish and fetal pig.

From the beginning of the year, you are going to use your taxonomic skills. Please classify the fetal pig and the starfish in each of their taxonomic groups from Domain to Species. Please be sure to remember the rules of the genus and species name!

**Specimen:**

**D:**

**K:**

**P:**

**C:**

**O:**

**F:**

**G:**

**S:**

**Specimen:**

**D:**

**K:**

**P:**

**C:**

**O:**

**F:**

**G:**

**S:**

**Specimen:**

**D:**

**K:**

**P:**

**C:**

**O:**

**F:**

**G:**

**S:**

**Habitat/Environment:**

Inorder to better understand some of the adaptation/features of each of your three specimens, it would be beneficial to research the habitat in which you would find each one of these organisms. When you do this, focus on and discuss the following areas: habitat, climate, feeding, mating/reproduction, special characteristics they possess to insure survival.

Now that you know a little more about each of the specimens it is time to “dig in”!